

Curriculum Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 28, 2010 @ Granite School District

Attendees:

Districts: Barry Graff, Aleen Ure (Alpine); Darin Nielsen (Box Elder); Craig Ashton (Cache); Amber Roderick-Landward, Hollie Pettersson (Canyons); Judy Mainord, Mike O'Shea (Carbon); Jill Snyder (Davis); Larry Abplanalp, Mary Kettle (Duchesne); Jed Jensen (Emery); Christine Huley, Mary Alice Rudelich (Granite); Kerrie Naylor (Jordan); Robin Williams (Logan); Scott Bassett (Millard); Steve Hirase (Murray); Nedra Call (Nebo); Leslie Keisel (North Sanpete); Greg Lewis (Ogden); Lori Gardner (Park City); Shauna Carl, Barbara Kuehl (Salt Lake City); Brenan Jackson (South Sanpete); Barry Walker (South Summit); Bobbie Roberts (Tooele); Karen Krier (UEN); Jayme Leyba (Uintah); Shannon Buchanan, Chuck Foster, Rick Gaisford, Lynne Greenwood, Alan Griffin, Gerolynn Hargrove, Moya Kessig, Georgia Loutensock, Linda Mayne, Sue Okroy, Gregg Roberts, David Smith, Shauna South, Reed Spencer, Tom Sutton, Margaret Young, Frank Wojtech (USOE); Tod Johnson (Wasatch); Richard Holmes (Washington)

Charter Schools: Echo Cunningham (Academica West; also representing Ogden Preparatory Academy, Quest Academy, Syracuse Arts Academy, North Davis Preparatory Academy, Wasatch Peak Academy, Oquirrh Mountain Charter School, Hawthorne Academy, Early Light Academy, North Star Academy, and Open High School); Sarah Yerman (Channing Hall); Kathryn Stone (Lakeview Academy); Christine Hadlock (Mountainville Academy); Sara Brown (The Ranches Academy); Alen Howard (Rockwell High); and Steve Crandall (Summit Academy)

Presenter: Mike Ponza

Notes: Emily Sweeten

Totals: 58 attendees, 24 districts, 7 charter schools, UEN, USOE

1. Welcome – Lynne Greenwood

Please note the State Furlough days; Friday, January 29th, Friday, February 26th, & Friday, March 26th.

Race to the Top Update: Brenda Hales personally hand-delivered the Utah RTTT Application on Wednesday, Jan. 27th. If accepted we will be notified on March 1st, 2010. The 4 Reform areas are:

- 1. Adopting the common core.*
- 2. Data systems to improve instruction.*
- 3. Teachers and administrators.*
- 4. Turning around low achievement schools.*

2. Direct Writing Assessment – Margaret Young

Every piece of writing will be graded and scored by a human then by a computer. Human scoring will always win over a computer. This is 5% of the UPASS. This test cannot be compared from year to year. Margaret.young@schools.utah.gov

3. National What Works Institute – Mike Ponza, National Deputy Director, Oakland, CA

What Works Clearing House (WWC) Overview: There are so many different assessments out there and it's hard to know which ones are good and bad. WWC looks at these assessments and compares them. WWC connects educators with the best research on effective interventions and practices in education. Findings are posted on the website for utilization. These interventions are just a small part of what educators can use towards student achievement. Over time the assessments get better. There is a help desk available on the web site to gather input on what else is needed by WWC. WWC does NOT conduct research, they review and report on the findings they get from other companies assessments.

Products:

- 1. Interventions*
 - a. What is an Intervention Report? A report based on one specific topic, like curriculum, providing a summary on effectiveness. It uses the ratings given to see how effective these interventions are.*
 - b. Based on topic areas (Elementary Math, Elementary Science, High School English, ELL, etc.). Some recently added topics are Adolescent Literacy, Secondary Math, and Science.*
 - c. Within a year there are 50-60 different specific intervention reports made.*
- 2. Quick Reviews – to look at a single study in a quick one-page assessment. These are useful because you can examine newly released reports and studies that have been big in the media and determine how it lines up with the standards.*
- 3. Practice Guides – recommended practices for specific challenges based on the research.*
 - a. Includes: Recommendations in chapters, how-to steps, a check list, potential roadblocks, and solutions, a brief summary of evidence.*
 - b. Created by a panel of experts.*
 - i. Experts are found through national recommendations/reputations.*
 - ii. The panels are balanced with people from all areas of curriculum.*
 - iii. Panels meet many times to create these over a period of 15 months.*
 - c. Undergo peer review before posted and are assigned a level of evidence based on how many contexts the practice is proven to be useful.*

Questions:

- 1. How do you determine which intervention is used?*
Content experts gather and compare interventions to see what is best according to the standards. Everything is rule-based and transparent.
- 2. How do you decide which topics to use?*
Topics are ranked. The first ones picked have a greater need.
- 3. What kind of follow-up is used?*
Further developing on the standards, more products being made, national surveys done with districts/states/regions.

4. Anne Frank Exhibit – Shauna Carl

A 90-minute tour at the Salt Lake City Downtown Library, April 13-May 11, 2010, which is recommended for 5th grade and up. Education on the Holocaust is not required curriculum in Utah but UEN has lesson plans on the Anne Frank story at www.uen.annefrank.org. For more information visit www.shalomutah.org.

5. Utah Language Road Map for 21st Century/Update on Dual Immersion – Gregg Roberts

International education starting at a younger age will help lower global boundaries. Many Utah districts are now getting funding to allow high school students to study abroad.

Gregg.roberts@schools.utah.gov

6. Spotlight Granite School District – Christine Huley & Mary Alice Rudelich

Professional Learning Communities – allowing teachers to have continual professional growth.

PD360, Granite's online professional development program, provides videos, self assessments, and facilitator guides for teachers. Google search PD360 for a free 30-day trial. This program can be specified for each district and the cost will vary depending on your needs.

7. Extreme Makeover for PD – Lynne Greenwood

Strong leadership starts with our Principals; they know the staff, students, and parents in their schools. Effective principal leadership includes:

- 1. Collaboration.*
- 2. Asking questions and getting resources for their teachers.*
- 3. Perseverance.*
- 4. Principals don't ask their teachers to do something that they themselves wouldn't do.*
- 5. Establish a mission through the school.*
- 6. Create budgets that reflect the students' needs.*

8. Daily Elementary Instructional Schedules – Lynne Greenwood

Effective scheduling should include Read time, intervention time, and content time. Have professional days for your teachers: data conferences, planning time, etc. (Sample attached.)

9. Table Top Discussion: Integrating Your K-2 Schedule – Reed Spencer

Please see handout.

10. Core Academy – Gerolynn Hargrove

- High-quality, effective, grade-specific training in Elementary Math and Science.*
- 90 minute blocks with lab time.*
- All new lessons.*
- 5 sites across the state.*
- \$50.00 registration fee.*
- Online registration that's district friendly – first come first serve.*
 - Registration is not open yet; pending the OK from Legislature to accept a registration fee.*
- Gerolynn.hargrove@schools.utah.gov*

11. Language Arts Praxis – Reed Spencer

Starting January 1, 2011, every Reading Endorsement level I will require a Praxis score.

Starting January 1 2012, every Reading Endorsement level I will require a passing Praxis score.

Starting immediately, certain online courses will be accepted for the Reading Endorsement.

12. UCET Conference – Rick Gaisford

- *February 26-27, 2010, Utah Coalition for Educational Technology.*
- *Online registration www.ucet.org.*
- *\$45.00/person.*

13. Legislative Update – Lynne Greenwood/Human Sexuality – Frank Wojtech

Title II D Competitive Grant is still in the works. Please see handout.

Human Sexuality:

- 1. Maturation – Growing Up Comes First Program, online resources for students, teachers, and parents.*
- 2. Legislation – There will be a choice for LEAs regarding teaching about contraception and the materials they will use.*

14. AP Grant – Moya Kessig

Still pending availability of Grant money.

15. Other

Service Learning – Linda Mayne: Professional Development conference “Creating Extraordinary Citizens.”

- 1. March 18, 2010.*
- 2. Free registration.*
- 3. Sub reimbursement.*

****Next Meeting****

NOTE: The date has changed due to State Furlough days.

The next Curriculum Directors meeting will be held **Monday, March 22, 2010**, Granite School District.